INSTITUTES OF ENGLISH GRAMMAR;

COMPRIZING,

I. The different Kinds, Relations, and Changes of Words.

II. Syntax, or the right Conſtruction of Sentences.

WITH

EXERCISES of *true* and *falſe* CONSTRUCTION.

Adapted to the USE of SCHOOLS.

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Winter on
K Grammar

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THE

PREFACE.

THE deſign of this little tract is to comprize the rudiments of Engliſh *Grammar, in a plain, conciſe, and regular form, ſuited to the ſcholaſtic method of inſtruction. For this purpoſe, I have judged it of importance to avoid hard technical words, and long ſentences, as unfit for the capacities of children. The minuter obſervations are thrown into the form of notes; and the inflections of Nouns, Verbs,* &c. *inſtead of being previouſly deſcribed by words, are chiefly delineated in their examples. I have endeavoured to render the definitions philoſophical, as well as plain, and to conform ſtrictly to the ſimplicity of the* Engliſh *Language, retaining however, for obvious reaſons, as many of the common terms of grammar, as were admiſſible into my Plan.*

The catechetical form of inſtruction, though accompanied with ſome advantages, is uſually attended with this inconvenience, that the young ſcholar commits the anſwers to memory, without being at the trouble of underſtanding the queſtions, whereby the ſenſe is left imperfect. I would rather recommend this method to be uſed at the diſcretion of the maſter, by way of examination, when it may be uſeful to depart from the written form. Trifling as theſe arrangements may appear, they are nevertheleſs to be conſidered of importance, if they produce any practical advantage to children, and their inſtructors.

Little originality is to be expected in a work of this nature. In what relates to Pronouns, however, I have choſen to depart from the common plan, having noticed under this claſs, thoſe only that have the nature of Subſtantives. The uſual diſtribution of them into poſſeſſive, relative, demonſtrative, *and* diſtributive, *ſeems unneceſſary at leaſt, if not without foundation.* My, thy, our, *and the like, are with more propriety termed Adjectives derived from Pronouns. The words* this, that, each, the ſame, *&c. are rather to be called Adjectives, whoſe Subſtantives are frequently underſtood. They are no more entitled to the appellation of Pronouns, than* the good, the wiſe, *Adjectives of* Number, *and many*

many others which it would be thought abſurd to rank under this claſs.

If an apology be required for adding to the numerous publications on this ſubject, it is the following—That our beſt Grammarians have confeſſedly written to perſons of maturity and reflection, without any view to the early part of education—That others have engaged in the preſent plan with very conſiderable merit, but often with ſome material defect, which the judicious ſchoolmaſter would wiſh to have ſupplied. Faults of this nature are a general want of accuracy, an inattention to the ſimplicity of our own language, and particularly an imperfect Syntax; as alſo the adopting too many of the terms and diviſions of the Latin *grammar. Theſe the author of the following treatiſe hath endeavoured to avoid, and to unite perſpicuity of expreſſion with a comprehenſive brevity: How far he hath ſucceeded in the attempt, it is not for him to determine.*

INSTITUTES

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OF

ENGLISH GRAMMAR, &c.

PART I.

Of the different Kinds and Changes of WORDS.

WORDS may be conveniently arranged under the following Claſſes; NOUN, PRONOUN, ADJECTIVE, VERB, PARTICIPLE, ARTICLE, ADVERB, CONJUNCTION, PREPOSITION, and INTERJECTION.

Of NOUNS.

A NOUN or SUBSTANTIVE, is the name of whatever we diſtinctly perceive, underſtand,

ſtand, or diſcourſe of;† as a *man*, a *tree*, *goodneſs*, *truth*.

Nouns may be divided into COMMON and PROPER.

A Noun *common* belongs to a whole kind; as, a *man*, a *city*, a *river*.

A Noun *proper* is the name of an individual of a kind, as, *Julius Cæſar*, *London*, the *Danube*.

The terminations or endings of Nouns are changed on account of NUMBER, CASE, and GENDER.

Of NUMBER.

THERE are two NUMBERS, the SINGULAR, and the PLURAL.‡

The

† DIRECTION. If therefore we prefix the words, "I ſpeak of"——whatever word compleats the ſenſe is a Noun; as I ſpeak of—*virtue*, *wiſdom*, *gold*. The young ſcholar may be uſefully exerciſed in thus reciting a number of ſubſtantives.

‡ Some words want the ſingular number; as *aſhes*, *lungs*, &c. Some have no plural; as, the names of VIRTUES and VICES, *juſtice*, *temperance*, &c. of METALS; as, *braſs*, *gold*, &c. and all PROPER NAMES. In others the ſingular and plural terminations are alike; as, *ſheep*, *deer*. Some words taken from foreign languages, retain their original plurals; as *cherub*, *cherubim*; *ſeraph*, *ſeraphim*; *erratum*, *errata*; *phœnomenon*, *phœnomena*; *radius*, *radii*; *beau*, *beaux*, &c.

The *ſingular* Number ſpeaketh but of one; as, a *ſong*.

The *plural* number expreſſeth more than one; as *ſongs*.

The plural number is generally formed, by adding *s*, or *es*,† to the ſingular; as *river*, *rivers*; *fiſh*, *fiſhes*.‡

But many plurals are formed irregularly; as, *man*, *men*; *foot*, *feet*.‖

If the ſingular end in *y*, preceded by a conſonant, the plural ſhall end in *ies*; as, *beauty*, *beauties*.

Of CASE.

THERE are two CASES, the NOMINATIVE, and the POSSESSIVE.

The *Nominative* caſe is the name itſelf; as, *George*.

The *Poſſeſſive* denotes Property, or Poſſeſſion; as, *George*'s book.

† *Es* is added, where *s* could not otherwiſe be ſounded, *viz.* after *ch*, *s*, *ſh*, *x*, and *z*; as, *torch*, *torches*; *ax*, *axes*.

‡ Many words ending in *f*, make their plural in *ves*; as, *calf*, *calves*; *knife*, *knives*; but others follow the general rule; as, *grief*, *griefs*; *cliff*, *cliffs*.

‖ To which may be added, *woman*, *women*; *child*, *children*; *brother*, *brethren*; *ox*, *oxen*; as alſo, *die*, *dice*; *louſe*, *lice*; *mouſe*, *mice*; *gooſe*, *geeſe*; *ſow*, *ſwine*; *penny*, *pence*; *tooth*, *teeth*.

The Poſſeſſive is formed by adding *s*, with an apoſtrophe before it, to the Nominative.†

But to a Plural ending in *s*, ~~or~~ ſometimes a Singular in *ſſ*, the apoſtrophe only is added; as, *the ſoldiers'* valour; for *righteouſneſs'* ſake.

Note. The poſſeſſive Plural is ſeldom uſed.

Of GENDER.

NOUNS have properly two GENDERS; the MASCULINE, to denote the male kind; and the FEMININE, to denote the female.‡

When there is no diſtinction of ſex, a Noun is ſaid to be of the NEUTER Gender.

The feminine Gender is ſometimes expreſſed by

† When ſeveral names are coupled together in the Poſſeſſive Caſe, the apoſtrophe with *s* may be joined to the laſt of them, and underſtood to the reſt; as, *John, James, and Robert's* Horſe.

If the term denoting property or poſſeſſion conſiſt of ſeveral words, the apoſtrophe is uſually ſubjoined to the laſt of them; as, *the king of Great-Britain's army.*

‡ When perſonified, the following words are conſidered as Maſculine; *ſun, time, death, ſleep, love,* the *ſeaſons.*

Virtue, vice, with their ſpecies; the *earth,* the *moon,* the *church, religion, nature, fortune, ſhip, veſſel, gun,* the names of *countries* and *cities* are feminine.

by adding *eſs* to the Maſculine; as, *lion*, *lioneſs*; but generally without regard to rule.‡‡

Inflection of a regular Noun.

Sing.	Nom. *River*,	*Plur.*	Nom. *Rivers*,
	Poſſ. *River*'s.		Poſſ. *Rivers*'.

Inflection of an irregular Noun.

Sing.	Nom. *Child*,	*Plur.*	Nom. *Children*,
	Poſſ. *Child*'s.		Poſſ. *Children*'s.

‡ Many Maſculines in *tor* make their Feminines in *trix*; as *executor*, *executrix*: *Hero* makes *heroine*.

CHAP. II.

Of PRONOUNS.

A PRONOUN is a word uſed inſtead of a Noun; as, *I*, for my name; *he*, for his name.

Pronouns, like unto Nouns, are inflected with NUMBER and CASE.

Some Pronouns have a Caſe peculiar to themſelves, which is called the *objective*, and follows Verbs and Prepoſitions.

Inflection of Pronouns.

Sing.	Nom. *I*,		*Plur.*	Nom. *We*,
	Poſſ. *Mine*,			Poſſ. *Ours*,
	Objec. *Me*.			Objec. *Us*.
Sing.	Nom. *Thou*,		*Plur.*	Nom. *You, or ye*,
	Poſſ. *Thine*,			Poſſ. *Yours*,
	Objec. *Thee*.			Objec. *You*.
Sing.	Nom. *He*,		*Plur.*	Nom. *They*,
	Poſſ. *His*,			Poſſ. *Theirs*,
	Objec. *Him*.			Objec. *Them*.

Sing.

† Some will have *mine* and *thine* to be Adjectives.

Sing.	Nom. *She*,	*Plur.*	Nom. *They*,
	Poſſ. *Hers*,		Poſſ. *Theirs*,
	Objec. *Her*.		Objec. *Them*.
Sing.	Nom. *It*,	*Plur.*	Nom. *They*,
	Poſſ. *Its*,		Poſſ. ——
	Objec. *Her*.		Objec. *Them*.
Sing.	Nom. *One*,	*Plur.*	Nom. *Ones*,
	Poſſ. *One's*,		Poſſ. ——
	Objec. *One*.		Objec. *Ones*.
Sing.	Nom. *Other*,	*Plur.*	Nom. *Others*,
	Poſſ. *Other's*,		Poſſ. *Others'*,
	Objec. *Other*.		Objec. *Others*.

† *Who* is termed a *Relative*, becauſe it relates to a preceding Noun or Pronoun, and if a queſtion be aſked, it is called an *Interrogative*.

Sing. and	Nom. *Who*,
Plur.	Poſſ. *Whoſe*,
	Objec. *Whom*.

In

† The RELATIVE ſeems to unite in its nature, the *Pronoun*, and the *Conjunction*.

Note. The words *myſelf*, *thyſelf*, &c. which are ſometimes ſtiled Pronouns, are rather the pronominal Adjectives *my*, *thy*, &c. joined to the Subſtantive *ſelf*. *Ourſelf* is only uſed in the royal proclamations. *Himſelf* and *themſelves* ſeem to be corruptly put for *his ſelf*, *their ſelves*.

In like manner is declined its compound *whoſoever*.

Sing. and	Nom. *Whoſoever*,
Plur.	Poſſ. *Whoſoever*,
	Objec. *Whomſoever*.

CHAP.

CHAP. III.

Of ADJECTIVES.

AN ADJECTIVE expreſſeth ſome quality or property of a Noun, to which it requires to be united; as, *great*, *wiſe*, *good*.

Adjectives change their termination only on account of COMPARISON.

Except *this* plural *theſe*; and *that* pl. *thoſe*.

There are three Degrees of compariſon; the POSITIVE, the COMPARATIVE, and the SUPERLATIVE.

The

DIRECTION. An Adjective will admit the word *thing* after it; as, a *good thing*. Moſt Adjectives alſo may be compared; as, *fair*, *fairer*, *faireſt*.

It will greatly aſſiſt the young ſcholar, if he be required to find Adjectives to a given Subſtantive; as for example, to the word GOLD; *yellow* gold, *precious* gold, *fine* gold. On the other hand, he may find Subſtantives to a given Adjective; as for example, to the word HIGH; high *tree*, high *mountain*, high *tower*, &c. Afterwards let him compare the Adjectives, and inflect the Subſtantives, by which he will learn to diſtinguiſh their grammatical properties.

The *Poſitive* expreſſeth the ſimple quality; as, *hard*.

The *Comparative* ſomewhat increaſeth the ſignification of the Poſitive; as *harder*.

The *Superlative* expreſſeth the quality in the higheſt degree; as, *hardeſt*.

Example of the compariſon of Adjectives.

Poſitive.	*Comparative.*	*Superlative.*
Hard	hard*er*†	hard*eſt*†
Wiſe	wiſ*er*	wiſ*eſt*

The following Adjectives are compared irregularly, *viz.*

Poſ.	*Comp.*	*Superl.*
Good,	better,	beſt.
Bad,	worſe,‡	worſt.
Little,	leſs,‡	leaſt.
Much,	more,	moſt.
Near,	nearer,	neareſt and next.
Late,	later,	lateſt and laſt.

Adjectives whoſe ſignification cannot be encreaſed, do not admit of compariſon; as, *all*, *every*, &c.

Many

† For the ſake of continuing the accent, it ſometimes becomes neceſſary to double the final Conſonant; as, *fit*, *fitter*, *fitteſt*.

‡ *Worſer* and *leſſer* ſeem ungrammatical.

Many Adjectives, and eſpecially thoſe that conſiſt of ſeveral Syllables, are compared by the help of Particles; as, *extraordinary*, *more extraordinary*, *moſt extraordinary*.

Some Adjectives are derived from Pronouns; as, *my*, *thy*, *our*, *your*, &c. others frequently have their Subſtantives underſtood; as, *each*, *either*, &c. alſo *which*, *what*, *whether*, *that* and *the ſame*, are called RELATIVES.

When *which*, *what*, and *whether* are uſed to aſk queſtions, they are called INTERROGATIVES.

CHAP. IV.

Of VERBS and PARTICIPLES.

A VERB *affirmeth* ſomewhat of a Noun; and betokeneth *to do*, *to be*, or *to be in ſome ſtate*; as, the bird *flies*; John *is* diligent; Peter *ſleeps*.

The Noun concerning which it affirms, is called the SUBJECT† of the Verb.

There are two kinds of Verbs, TRANSITIVE, and INTRANSITIVE.

A Verb is called *Tranſitive*, when its meaning paſſes from the ſubject to an OBJECT,‡ or following Noun; as Hannibal *defeated* the Romans.

A Verb

DIRECTION. Whatever word makes a complete ſentence with a Noun, is a Verb. It may alſo be diſtinguiſhed by admitting the perſonal Pronouns before it: as, *I love*, *thou loveſt*, &c. It is called a VERB or WORD, as being the chief word in every ſentence.

† The ſubject of the Verb is the word that anſwereth to the queſtion *Who* or *What* before the Verb; as, *The bird flies. What flies?* Anſ. *The bird.*

‡ The object anſwers to the queſtion *Whom* or *What* after the Verb; as, *Hannibal defeated whom?* Anſ. *The Romans.*

A Verb is called *intranſitive*, or *neuter*, when its meaning doth not require an object or following Noun; as, they *laugh;* we *rejoice.*

A Verb is inflected with NUMBER, PERSON, TIME, and MODE.

Of NUMBER and PERSON.

THERE are TWO NUMBERS, the *Singular*, and the *Plural*; and THREE PERSONS in each Number.

A Verb is of the *firſt perſon*, when preceded by *I* or *We*; of the *ſecond perſon*, when preceded by *thou* or *ye;* when any other Noun or Pronoun becomes the ſubject of the Verb, it is of the *third perſon.*

So alſo with reſpect to Verbs, *I* and *we* are of the *firſt perſon; thou* and *ye* of the *ſecond;* and every other Noun and Pronoun, of the *third perſon.*

EXCEPTION. When a Subſtantive is ſpoken to, it becomes of the ſecond perſon.

Of TENSES or TIMES.

THERE are two TENSES or TIMES; the *preſent*, and the *preterite* or *paſt.*

Of MODES.

A VERB hath FOUR MODES; the *indicative*, the *imperative*, the *ſubjunctive*, and the *infinitive*.

The *indicative Mode* declareth ſomewhat; as, *thou loveſt;* or aſketh a queſtion; as, *loveſt thou?*

The *imperative* biddeth or commandeth; as, *love thou.*

The *ſubjunctive* is uſed to expreſs doubt, or uncertainty† after the words *although*, *if*, *whomſoever*, *unleſs*,‡ &c. as, *unleſs he love.*

The *infinitive Mode*, being the Verb itſelf, without reference to Number or Perſon, hath commonly the ſign *to* before it, and in ſignification is like unto a Noun; as, boys love *to play;* i. e. boys love *play.*

Of PARTICIPLES.

A PARTICIPLE is an Adjective, derived from a Verb, and retaining its ſignification.

A Verb hath TWO PARTICIPLES; one of the *preſent*, and another of the *preterite Tenſe.*

Inflection

† For if no uncertainty be implied after the words *although*, *if*, &c. the Verb retains the indicative Mode.

‡ To which may be added, *whether*, *except*, *whatſoever*, *before*, *provided*, *e'er*, and *words of wiſhing.*

Inflection of regular Verbs.

TO LEARN.	TO IMPROVE.

INDICATIVE MODE.

Preſent Tenſe.

Sing.	Plural.
I learn,	*We learn,*
Thou learneſt,†	*Ye learn,*
He learneth,‡ *or learns.*	‖*They learn.*
I improve,	*We improve,*
Thou improveſt,	*Ye improve,*
He improveth,‡ or *improves.*‖	*They improve.*

Preterite Tenſe.

I learned,	*We learned,*
Thou learnedſt,	*Ye learned,*
He learned.	*They learned.*
I improved,	*We improved,*
Thou improvedſt,§	*Ye improved,*
He improved.	*They improved.*

IMPE-

† It ſometimes becomes neceſſary to double the final Conſonant, when preceded by a ſhort Vowel, in order to continue the accent; as, *I forget, thou forgetteſt.*

‡ This termination is uſed in ſolemn language.

‖ This termination is uſed in familiar language.

§ This termination of the ſecond perſon preterite, on account of its harſhneſs, is ſeldom uſed in many of the irregular Verbs.

IMPERATIVE MODE.

Sing.	Plural.
Learn, or learn thou.	*Learn, or learn ye,*
Improve, or improve thou.	*Improve, or improve ye.*

SUBJUNCTIVE MODE.

Preſent Tenſe.

If I learn,	*If we learn,*
If thou learn,	*If ye learn,*
If he learn.	*If they learn.*
If I improve,	*If we improve,*
If thou improve,	*If ye improve,*
If he improve.	*If they improve.*

Preterite Tenſe.

If I learned,	*If we learned,*
If thou learned,	*If ye learned,*
If he learned.	*If they learned.*
If I improved,	*If we improved,*
If thou improved,	*If ye improved,*
If he improved.	*If they improved.*

INFINITIVE MODE.

To learn, *To improve.*

PARTICIPLES.

Preſent, *Learning,*	Preterite, *Learned.*
Preſent, *Improving,*	Preterite, *Improved.*

Note.

Note. Many Verbs form both the preterite Tenſe, and the Participle preterite irregularly; as, I *riſe;* pret. I *roſe.* Participle pret. I *am riſen.* *See the Appendix.*

Other circumſtances in the time and manner of Verbs, are expreſſed by the help of certain Verbs called AUXILIARIES.

The principal auxiliary Verbs are as follows.†

TO DO.‡

INDICATIVE MODE.

Preſent Tenſe.

Singular.	Plural.
I do,	*We do,*
Thou doeſt or doſt,	*Ye do,*
He doth or does.‖	*They do.*

Preterite

† *Note.* The Verb TO HAVE is joined to the *Participle preterite.* The Verb TO BE is joined to *both Participles.* The other Auxiliaries are joined to the *original form* of the Verb.

The Verbs *to do, to have, to will,* and *to be,* are not always Auxiliaries, but ſometimes principal Verbs.

Sometimes two or more Auxiliaries are joined together before a Participle, and then the firſt uſually expreſſes the manner, and the latter the time. The firſt only admits of variation; as, *I might have loved, thou mighteſt have loved.*

‡ *Do* expreſſes the meaning with greater energy; as, "Indeed I *do* ſpeak truth."

‖ *Doth* is uſed in ſolemn, *does* in familiar language.

Preterite Tenſe.

Sing.	Plural.
I did,	*We did,*
Thou didſt,	*Ye did,*
He did.	*They did.*

IMPER. SUBJUNC. INFINITIVE, *&c.*

PARTICIPLES. Preſ. *doing*; preter. *done.*

TO HAVE.†

INDICATIVE MODE.

Preſent Tenſe.

I have,	*We have,*
Thou haſt,	*Ye have,*
He hath‡ or has.	*They have.*

Preterite Tenſe.

I had,	*We had,*
Thou hadſt,	*Ye had,*
He had.	*They had.*‖

PARTICIP.

† The Auxiliary *have* relates to time now paſt. Its preterite *had* ſignifies time paſt at a former period.

‡ *Hath* is uſed in ſolemn, *has* in familiar language.

‖ By way of exerciſe may be added the Subjunctive, *If I have, if thou have,* &c.

PARTICIPLES.

Preſent, *having*. Preterite, *had*.

TO BE.†

INDICATIVE MODE.

Preſent Tenſe.

Sing.	Plural.
I am,	*We are,*
Thou art,	*Ye are,*
He is.	*They are.*

Preterite Tenſe.

I was,	*We were,*
Thou waſt,	*Ye were,*
He was.	*They were.*

IMPERATIVE MODE.

Be or be thou,	*Be or be ye.*

SUBJUNCTIVE MODE.

If I be,	*If we be,*
If thou be,	*If ye be,*
If he be.	*If they be.*

† The Auxiliary *to be* contains a ſimple affirmation. When joined to the *Participle preſent*, it aſſerts with greater exactneſs and force: When joined to the *Participle preterite*, it implies the ſuffering or receiving of what is expreſſed; as, *I am writing. Thou art beaten.*

Preterite Tenſe.

Sing.	Plural.
If I were,	*If we were,*
If thou wert,	*If ye were,*
If he were.	*If they were.*

Participles.

Preſent, *being.* Preterite, *been.*

The Verbs *ſhall*, *will*, *may*, *can*, have two forms, the one ABSOLUTE, the other CONDITIONAL.

SHALL.

Abſolute Form.

I ſhall,	*We ſhall,*
Thou ſhalt,	*Ye ſhall,*
He ſhall.	*They ſhall.*†

Conditional Form.

I ſhould,	*We ſhould,*
Thou ſhouldeſt,	*Ye ſhould,*
He ſhould.	*They ſhould.*

In like manner is declined WILL‡, conditional WOULD.

MAY.

† *Shall* in the firſt perſon ſimply *foretells;* in the ſecond and third perſons, it *promiſes*, *commands*, *threatens* or *engages.*

‡ *Will* in the firſt perſon *promiſes*, *threatens* or *engages;* in the ſecond and third perſons it only *foretells.*

MAY.†

Abſolute Form.

Sing.	Plural.
I may,	*We may,*
Thou mayeſt,	*Ye may,*
He may.	*They may.*

Conditional Form.

I might,	*We might,*
Thou mighteſt,	*Ye might.*
He might.	*They might.*

CAN.‡

Abſolute Form.

I can,	*We can,*
Thou canſt,	*Ye can,*
He can.	*They can.*

Conditional Form.

I could,	*We could,*
Thou couldeſt,	*Ye could,*
He could.	*They could.*

The Verb MUST‖ is undeclined.

† *May* ſignifies *right, liberty,* or *poſſibility.*
‡ *Can* ſignifies the *power* of doing any thing.
‖ *Muſt* implies *neceſſity.*

CHAP. V.

Of Articles, Adverbs, Conjunctions, Prepositions, and Interjections.

Of ARTICLES.

ARTICLES are the words *a* and *the*, uſed before Nouns.

A relates to one of a kind, but not one in particular; as, Have you ſeen *a* ſhip?

Hence it is called the *indefinite* Article.

The ſignifies that a particular perſon or thing is referred to; as, Did you ſee *the* Ship?

Hence it is called the *definite* Article.

Note. A becomes *an* when followed by a Vowel, or *h* not ſounded.

Of ADVERBS.

ADVERBS are contractions of Sentences, or parts of a Sentence, generally ſerving

Note. Adverbs are commonly diſtributed into many kinds, which it would be tedious to enumerate The principal

ving to denote ſome circumſtance or manner of an action.

They are frequently added to Verbs and Adjectives; as, he *reads well;* he is *very diligent.*

Many Adverbs end in *ly;* as, *wiſely, happily.*

Some Adverbs are compared; as, *often, oftener, oftenest.*

Of CONJUNCTIONS.

A Conjunction joineth Sentences together; as, Peter, John, *and*‡ James run.

Of

principal diviſions are thoſe of *time;* as, *now, often, ſometimes, to-day, then, ever, never,* &c. Of *place;* as, *where, here, hence, thence, thither,* &c. Of *number;* as, *once, twice, thrice,* &c. Of *affirming* and *denying;* as, *yes, no, truly, not,* &c. and of *quality,* which are very numerous, and uſually end in *ly;* as, *mercifully, juſtly.*

‡ Which may be reſolved into three ſentences, *viz. Peter runs. John runs. James runs.*

Note. The principal Conjunctions are, *and, albeit, alſo, although, becauſe, both, but, either, except, for, if, indeed, neither, nevertheleſs, nor, notwithſtanding, or, ſeeing, ſince, ſo, that, therefore, though, wherefore, whether.*

Of Conjunctions ſome are *copulative*, and ſome are *disjunctive*.

A Conjunction *copulative* continues the ſame ſenſe; as, *and*, *alſo*.

A *diſjunctive* expreſſes an oppoſition of meaning; as, *but*, *although*, *unleſs*.

Of PREPOSITIONS.

A Preposition is uſed to ſhew the relation of words to each other; as, He went *from* Mancheſter, *through* Derby, *to* London.

Of INTERJECTIONS.

An Interjection is a word expreſſing a ſudden emotion of the mind; as, *alas! O! phy!*

INSTI-

Note. Moſt Prepoſitions are contained in the following lines,

" Between, beſides, above, beneath, about,
" Behind, beyond, amongſt, within, without,
" After, towards, againſt, nigh, at, upon,
" Before, until, with, into, from, of, on."

The word *a* ſeems to be a Prepoſition; perhaps a contraction of *on* in ſuch phraſes as, *I went a fiſhing*.

Prepoſitions are often prefixed to Verbs in compoſition;

INSTITUTES

OF

ENGLISH GRAMMAR, &c.

PART II.

Of SYNTAX, or the right Conſtruction of SENTENCES.

SYNTAX may be conſidered with reſpect to CONCORD, GOVERNMENT, and POSITION.

Concord

tion; as, *to overtake.* There are alſo certain Particles of this nature, which are combined with Verbs, but have no ſeparate exiſtence in our language; as, *be*, *mis*, &c. in the words *befal*, *miſapply*, &c. Prepoſitions are frequently ſubjoined to Verbs; in which caſe they aſſume the nature of the Adverb, and conſiderably affect the meaning of the Verb; as, *to give over*, *to make out.*

Concord is, when words are required to be in like Number, Caſe, Gender, or Perſon.

Government is, when one word cauſes another to be in ſome Caſe or Form.

Poſition is the proper arrangement of words.

RULES of CONCORD.

I. THE Verb agrees with its ſubject in Number and Perſon.

EXAMPLE.† *I learn. Thou improveſt. He reads. We perceive. Ye underſtand. They write. The roſe withers. Thou laughedſt. Peter wept. Ye did play. He hath been diligent. Thou ſhalt not ſteal. I have promiſed. The maſter hath forbidden. They are gone. If he perform his promiſe. Thou ſhouldeſt have been diligent.*

II. Two or more ſubjects of the ſingular Number, with a copulative Conjunction between them, require a Verb plural.

England and Scotland are *ſeparated by the Tweed.*

† Examples of this nature may at firſt view appear trifling and unneceſſary; but perhaps experience will ſhew them to be of uſe. In the Latin language it is common to exemplify particular rules, before we proceed to reſolve long and complicated ſentences. And I am perſuaded the ſame method will be equally advantageous to the *Engliſh* ſcholar. Exerciſes of *falſe conſtruction* will be attended with ſingular benefit; a ſhort ſpecimen of which is inſerted in the Appendix.

Tweed. Pope, Addiſon, and Swift were *cotemporary. Knowledge and virtue* are *preferable to riches.*

III. A Noun of multitude may be joined either to the ſingular or plural Number of the Verb.

The people rejoiceth. *The People* rejoice. *The Parliament* are *aſſembled. Part of the army* are *diſbanded.*

IV. Sometimes an infinitive Mode, ſometimes a clauſe of a Sentence becomes the ſubject of a Verb.

To err *is human;* to forgive, *divine.* To mourn without meaſure *is folly;* not to mourn at all, *inſenſibility.*

V. The Adjectives *this* and *that* agree with their Subſtantives in number.

This man. Theſe men. That boy. Thoſe boys. Theſe books are entertaining. Thoſe maps are well executed.

VI. The Relative is of the ſame number and perſon as its antecedent,† and the Verb agrees with it accordingly.

Thou *who* hateſt *reproof.* He *who* is *diligent.* They *who* are *diligent.* I *who* am *content. The* horſe, *which* runs. *The* fiſhes, *which* ſwim.

† **The Antecedent of a Relative, is the preceding Noun or Pronoun to which it relates.**

RULES of GOVERNMENT.

VII. The Pronoun coming before the Verb, muſt be in the Nominative Caſe.

I *walk*. Thou *ſees*. We *love*. She *reads*. They *hear*.

VIII. The Pronoun following the Verb, muſt be in the Objective Caſe.

I praiſe him. *Thou loveſt* me. *The maſter blamed* them. *He admoniſhed* us. *We have found* you.

IX. Except the Verb *to be*, which is followed by the Nominative Caſe of the Pronoun.†

This is he. *Who art* thou? *Is it* I? *We are* they.

X. If there come no ſubject expreſſed or underſtood, between the Relative and the Pronoun, the Relative ſhall be the ſubject of the Verb.

The boy, who is *diligent, merits praiſe. They*, that ſeek *wiſdom, ſhall find her. Thoſe pleaſures are moſt to be valued*, which accompany *us, through the whole of our exiſtence.*

XI. If a ſubject expreſſed or underſtood, come between the Relative *who*, and the Verb, the Relative muſt be put in the Objective Caſe.

The

† The infinitive Mode of the Verb *to be*, is followed by the objective Caſe of the Pronoun.

The man, whom *the king delighteth to honour. Men commonly hate him*, whom *they fear. The boys*, whom *you ſent, are returned.*

XII. When a queſtion is aſked by the Relative *Who*, and an anſwer given by the Pronoun only, the Relative and the Pronoun ſhall be in the ſame Caſe.

Q. Who chuſes to walk? A. I. *Q.* Whoſe *book is this? A.* Mine. *Q.* Whom *did you ſee? A.* Him.†

XIII. The relation of property or poſſeſſion, may be expreſſed by the Poſſeſſive Caſe.

The king's *forces were victorious. I admire* Thomſon's *works.* George's *horſe moves well.* Peter's *book is torn. He extolled the* ſoldiers' *valour. Teach me to feel* another's *woe.* Pope.

XIV. A Verb following another Verb, is put in the Infinitive Mode.

Boys love to play. *We deſire* to learn. *I rejoiced* to ſee *my father and mother.*

XV. The Particle *to* is uſually omitted after the Verbs, *bid, dare, feel, let, make, need, hear, ſee.*

I bade him ſhut *the door. He dares not* tell *a lie. I will make him* confeſs. *Let us*

 hearken

† The reaſon of this will be obvious, if we compleat any of the foregoing ſentences: For inſtance. Q. *Who* chuſes to walk? A. *I.* i. e. *I chuſe to walk.* Q. *Whom* did you ſee? A. *Him.* i. e. *I ſaw him.*

hearken *to the precepts of virtue. I ſaw him* go *into the houſe. I heard him* ſpeak. *I feel the fire* burn.

XVI. The Participle preſent governs the Objective Caſe of the Pronoun.

We were ſeeking him. *He is inſtructing* us. *He was admoniſhing* them.

XVII. A Noun or Pronoun, when put abſolute† with a Participle, i. e. independent on the reſt of the ſentence, is in the Nominative Caſe.

The ſun being *riſen, we purſued our journey. Wiſdom is the nobleſt attainment of human nature*, virtue *only* excepted. He having *concluded his diſcourſe, Philip replied.*

XVIII. Prepoſitions govern the Objective Caſe of the Pronoun.

I went with him. *He came to* me. *Peter was amongſt* them. *They ran before* us. *To* whom *did you give the book?*

XIX. The Relative *who*, after the Conjunction *than*, muſt be put in the Objective Caſe.

Titus, than whom *no prince was more beloved, ſucceeded his father Veſpaſian. I have been*

† Sometimes an *infinitive Mode*, ſometimes the *Participle preſent*, may be ſaid to be put abſolute; as, in the phraſes *to conclude; though properly ſpeaking;* and the like.

been reading Cicero, than whom *no writer is more eloquent.*

XX. Many Conjunctions require other corresponding Conjunctions; as,

Although, though,	*Yet, nevertheleſs.*
Whether,	*Or;*
Neither or *nor,*	*Nor;*
As,	*So;* implying compariſon
As,	*As;* denoting equality
So,	*As;* implying compariſon
So,	*That;* expreſſing a conſequence.

Though *the houſe is ſmall,* yet *it is very convenient.* Whether *I ſhall come* or *not, is uncertain. I* neither *love hunting,* nor *ſhooting.*

As *one who ſpies a ſerpent in his way,*
Gliſt'ning, and baſking in the ſummer ray,
Diſorder'd ſtops, to ſhun the danger near,
Then walks with faintneſs on, and looks with fear;
So *ſeem'd the Sire*—— Parnel.

I think Milton as *great a poet,* as *Virgil.*

The greyhound is not ſo *fierce,* as *the maſtiff; nor is the maſtiff* ſo *ſwift, as the greyhound. I was* ſo *tired,* that *I fell aſleep.*

XXI. The Conjunctions *and, nor, or,* and *than,* frequently connect like States, Caſes, Modes, and Tenſes.

Peter,

Peter, James, *and* John *were aſleep*. *He is angry at* me *and* you, *and* them. Honour *thy father with thy whole heart*, *and* forget *not the ſorrows of thy mother*. *It is better* to receive, *than* to do *injury*.

At dawn poor Stella danc'd *and* ſung. Prior.
I ſaw *and* kiſs'd *her in her ſhroud*. Ditto.

XXII. Auxiliary Verbs muſt be joined either to the original form of the Verb, or to one of its Participles, but never to the Preterite Tenſe.

I do love. *Thou haſt* loved. *He is* writing. *We were* chidden. *Thou ſhouldeſt* attend. *He might* improve. *They could have* known. *Thou mighteſt have been* heard.

XXIII. *Who* relates to perſons, *which* to things; *that*† may refer to either.

The man, who *tells a lie*, *is imprudent*, *as well as wicked*. *The* graſs, which *was cut yeſterday*, *is now withered*. *The* boy, that *is diligent*, *ſhall be rewarded*. *The* nuts, that *you gave me*, *are bad*.

XXIV. When *this*, or its plural *theſe*, is contraſted with *that*, or its plural *thoſe*; *this* or *theſe* refers to the *latter*, *that* or *thoſe* to the former word, clauſe, or ſentence.

In the city we are entertained with the works of

† *That* is a Relative, when it may be changed into *who* or *which*.

of men, in the country with the works of God: This *is the province of nature;* that *of art.*

Chearfulneſs is preferable to mirth. This *may be conſidered as an act;* that *as a habit of the mind.*

What conſcience dictates to be done,
Or warns me not to do;
This *teach me more than hell to ſhun,*
That *more than heav'n purſue.* Pope.

RULES of POSITION.

XXV. The ſubject of affirmation uſually precedes the Verb; as, *fire burns; the bird flies.*

XXVI. But when a queſtion is aſked, the ſubject either follows the Verb; as, *loveſt thou?* or comes between the Auxiliary and the Verb; as, *doſt* thou *love?*

XXVII. In like manner after the ~~Verb~~ imperative Mode, and the Adverbs *here, there;* as, *love thou; there was a man.*†

XXVIII. The

† The Verb neuter is ſometimes followed by its ſubject; as, *at the end of which hung her pipe.* The reaſon is plain, that as the Verb neuter does not admit an object after it, the meaning is not liable to any ambiguity.

The ſubject follows the Verb in ſuch phraſes; as, *charm he ever ſo wiſely; had he performed his promiſe:* which ſeem elliptical, and put for, *though he charm ever ſo wiſely; if he had performed his promiſe.*

XXVIII. The Adjective uſually precedes the Noun, with which it is connected; as, *a worthy man.*†

XXIX. But if ſome circumſtance depend upon the Adjective, it follows the Noun; as, *a man worthy to be praiſed.*

A good *horſe.* *A horſe* good for travelling. *A* merciful *man.* *A man* merciful to the poor. *Give me* convenient *food.* *Give me food* convenient for me.

XXX. A tranſitive Verb is followed by its object; as, Alexander killed *Clytus.*

XXXI. The Relatives *who*, *which*, and *that*, *follow their antecedents.*

The man, whom *you eſteem.* *The* horſe, which *runs.* *The* bird, that *flies.*

XXXII. Adverbs uſually precede the Adjectives, and follow the Verbs, with which they are connected.

Deference is the moſt *elegant of all compliments.* *A wiſe man will deſire no more, than what he may get* juſtly, *uſe* ſoberly, *diſtribute* chearfully, *and live upon* contentedly.

XXXIII. But if the Verb have an Auxiliary, the Adverb may be placed between the Auxiliary and the Verb.

Who

† The Verb *to be*, frequently comes between the Adjective and the Noun; as, *bleſſed is the man; happy is he.*

Who is he, that hath not *offended with his tongue? You have* often *deceived me. The time is* now *come. It hath* frequently *happened.*

XXXIV. Prepoſitions uſually come before the words to which they relate; as, He went *from* Dover *to* Calais.

XXXV. The Prepoſition is frequently ſeparated from the Relative which it governs, and placed at the end of a clauſe or ſentence.

Whom *do you live* with? Whom *ſhall I give the book* to? What *will you play* for?

General Direction.

In arranging the parts of a ſentence, we ought principally to aim at perſpicuity. In general we may obſerve, that words connected in ſenſe, ſhould be placed as near each other as poſſible—that circumſtances ſhould be joined to thoſe parts of a ſentence on which they are dependent—and the order of words correſpond with the order of our ideas.

The APPENDIX:

CONTAINING,

A TABLE of VERBS, irregularly inflected;

Remarks on ſome Grammatical FIGURES;

WITH

EXAMPLES of true and falſe Conſtruction.

A Table of VERBS irregularly inflected.

THOSE irregularities are omitted, which proceed from contracting *ed* into *t;* as, *I deal, I dealt.*

Where the inflection is diſtinguiſhed by an aſteriſm, the regular form is alſo in uſe.

To	*Preterite Tenſe.*	*Partic. Preterite.*
Abide,	abode,	abode.
ariſe,	aroſe,	ariſen.
awake,	awoke,*	awoke.

Bear,

To	*Preterite Tenſe.*	*Partic. Preterite.*
Bear, *to bring forth,*	bare,	born.
bear, *to carry,*	bore,	born.
beat,	beat,	beaten.
begin,	began,	begun.
behold,	beheld,	beheld.
bereave,	bereft,*	bereft.*
beſeech,	beſought,	beſought.
bid,	bade,	bidden.
bind,	bound,	bound.
bite,	bit,	bitten.
bleed,	bled,	bled.
blow,	blew,	blown.
break,	brake, broke,	broken.
breed,	bred,	bred.
bring,	brought,	brought.
burſt,	burſt,	burſten.
buy,	bought,	bought.
Coſt,	coſt,	coſt.
catch,	caught,*	caught.*
chide,	chid,	chidden.
chuſe,	choſe,	choſen.
cleave,	clave, clove,	cloven, cleft.
cling,	clung,	clung.
clothe,	clad,*	clad.*
come,	came,	come.
coſt,	coſt,	coſt.
crow,	crew,	crowed.

To	*Preterite Tenſe.*	*Partic. Preterite.*
cut,	cut,	cut.
Dare,	durſt,*	dared.
die,	died,	dead.
dig,	dug*,	dug.*
draw,	drew,	drawn.
drink,	drank,	drunk.
drive,	drove,	driven.
Eat,	ate,	eaten.
Fall,	fell,	fallen.
feed,	fed,	fed.
fight,	fought,	fought.
find,	found,	found.
flee,†	fled,	fled.
fling,	flung,	flung.
fly,	flew,	flown.†
forſake,	forſook,	forſaken.
freeze,	froze,	frozen.
Get,	got, gat	gotten.
give,	gave,	given.
go,	went,	gone.
grave,	graved,	graven.*
grind,	ground,	ground.
grow,	grew,	grown.
Hang,	hung,*	hung, hanged.

heave,

† It may be proper to diſtinguiſh this Verb, from the word *to fly*, with which it is often confounded. We *flee* from an enemy; but a bird *flies* with wings.

‡ This Participle is ſometimes improperly uſed for *flowed*, the regular Participle of the Verb to *flow*.

To	*Preterite Tenſe.*	*Partic. Preterite.*
heave,	hove,*	heaved.
help,	helped,	holpen.*
hew,	hewed,	hewn.
hide,	hid,	hidden.
hit,	hit,	hit.
hold,	held,	holden, held.
hurt,	hurt,	hurt.
Keep,	kept,	kept.
know,	knew,	known.
Lay,†	laid,	laid.
lead,	led,	led.
leave,	left,	left.
let,	let,	let.
lie,	lay,	lain.
load,	loaded,	loaden, laden.
loſe,	loſt,	loſt.
Make,	made,	made.
meet,	met,	met.
melt,	melted,	molten.*
mow,	mowed,	mown.
Pay,	paid,	paid.
put,	put,	put.
Quit,	quit,*	quit.*
Read,	read,	read.
		ride,

† It is a common miſtake to confound this Verb, which ſignifies *to place*, with the neuter Verb *to lie;* as, *Where did you* lay *laſt night;* inſtead of *Where did you* lie?

To.	*Preterite Tenſe,*	*Partic. Preterite.*
ride,	rode,	ridden.
ring,	rang,	rung.
riſe,	roſe,	riſen.
rive,	rived,	riven.
run,	ran,	run.
Saw,	ſawed,	ſawn.
ſay,	ſaid,	ſaid.
ſee,	ſaw,	ſeen.
ſeek,	ſought,	ſought.
ſeethe,	ſeethed,	ſodden.
ſell,	ſold,	ſold.
ſend,	ſent,	ſent.
ſet,	ſet,	ſet.
ſhake,	ſhook,	ſhaken.
ſhave,	ſhaved,	ſhaven.*
ſhear,	ſheared,	ſhorn.
ſhed,	ſhed,	ſhed.
ſhine,	ſhone,*	ſhone.*
ſhoe,	ſhod,	ſhod.
ſhoot,	ſhot,	ſhot.
ſhow, ſhew,	ſhowed, ſhewed,	ſhown* ſhewn.*
ſhrink,	ſhrank,	ſhrunk.
ſhut,	ſhut,	ſhut.
ſing,	ſang,	ſung.
ſink,	ſunk,	ſunk.
ſit,	ſat,	ſat.
ſlay,	ſlew,	ſlain.
ſlide,	ſlided,	ſlidden.

ſlink,

To	*Preterite Tenſe.*	*Partic. Preterite.*
ſlink,	ſlunk,	ſlunk.
ſling,	ſlung,	ſlung.
ſlit,	ſlit,	ſlit.
ſmite,	ſmote,	ſmitten.
ſow,	ſowed,	ſown.*
ſpeak,	ſpoke, ſpake	ſpoken.
ſpeed,	ſped,	ſped.
ſpin,	ſpun,	ſpun.
ſpit,	ſpat,	ſpitten.
ſplit,	ſplit,	ſplit.
ſpread,	ſpread,	ſpread.
ſpring,	ſprang, ſprung,	ſprung.
ſtand,	ſtood,	ſtood.
ſteal,	ſtole,	ſtolen.
ſtick,	ſtuck,	ſtuck.
ſting,	ſtung,	ſtung.
ſtink,	ſtank,	ſtunk.
ſtride,	ſtrode,	ſtridden.
ſtrike,	ſtruck,	ſtricken.
ſtring,	ſtrung,	ſtrung.
ſtrive,	ſtrove,	ſtriven.
ſtrow,	ſtrowed,	ſtrown.
ſwear,	ſwore, ſware,	ſworn.
ſweat,	ſweat,	ſweat.
ſwell,	ſwelled,	ſwollen.*
ſwim,	ſwam,	ſwum.
ſwing,	ſwung,	ſwung.
Take,	took,	taken.

To	*Preterite Tenſe.*	*Partic. Preterite.*
teach,	taught,	taught.
tear,	tore, tare,	torn.
tell,	told,	told.
think,	thought,	thought.
thrive,	throve,	thriven.
throw,	threw,	thrown.
thruſt,	thruſt,	thruſt.
tread,	trode,	trodden.
Wax,	waxed,	waxen.*
wear,	wore,	worn.
weave,	wove,	woven.
weep,	wept,	wept.
wet,	wet,	wet.
win,	won,	won.
wind,	wound,	wound.
work,	wrought,*	wrought.*
wring,	wrung,*	wrung.
write,	wrote,	written.

Inflection of an irregular Verb.

To go.

Indicative Mode, Preterite Tenſe.

Sing.	*I went.*	Plur.	*We went.*
	Thou wenteſt.		*Ye went.*
	He went.		*They went.*

Subjunctive

Subjunctive Mode, Preter. Tenſe.

Sing.		Plur.	
	If I went,		*If we went,*
	If thou went,		*If ye went,*
	If he went.		*If they went.*

Participles. Pref. *going*, Pret. *gone.*

In all other Modes and Tenſes, the regular form is obſerved.

DEFECTIVE VERBS.

OUGHT.

Preſent, and Preterite Tenſes.

Sing.		Plur.	
	I ought,		*We ought,*
	Thou oughteſt,		*Ye ought,*
	He ought.		*They ought.*

QUOTH.

Quoth I, quoth he or *ſhe.*

WIST.

I wiſt, he wiſt, we wiſt, ye wiſt, they wiſt.

WOT.

I wot, he wot, we wot, ye wot, they wot.

Remarks on ſome GRAMMATICAL FIGURES.

Of ELLIPSIS.

ELLIPSIS is the omiſſion of one or more words which the conſtruction requires to be ſupplied, for the ſake of brevity and elegance. There are few compound ſentences, which are not in ſome degree elliptical: Syntax therefore cannot be perfectly taught, or underſtood, without a particular attention to this figure. It will be an exerciſe of advantage to the ſcholar in many reſpects, to point out the various inſtances of Ellipſis that occur: For example:

1ſt. The *ellipſis* of the NOUN; as, *It is better to receive than to do injury.* i. e. *It is better to receive* injury, *than to do injury. When you come to St. Paul's, turn to the left.* i. e. *When you come to St. Paul's* church, *turn to the left* hand.

2dly. Of the Adjective; as, *much rain and ſnow;* i. e. *Much rain, and* much *ſnow.*

3dly. Of the RELATIVE; as, *the horſe, you bought is lame;* i. e. *The horſe,* which *you bought is lame.*

4thly. Of the VERB; as, *What am I, and from whence?* i. e. *What am I, and from whence* am I? *So ſaid, ſo done;* i. e. *So* it was *ſaid, ſo* it was *done.*

5thly.

5thly. Of the ARTICLE, ADVERB, CONJUNCTION, and PREPOSITION; as, *The bow and arrows are broken;* i. e. *The bow, and* the *arrows are broken. He ſpeaks and writes well;* i. e. *He ſpeaks* well, *and writes well. He is a very agreeable, worthy man;* i. e. *He is a very agreeable,* and a very *worthy man. I gave it to your brother and ſiſter;* i. e. *I gave it to your brother, and* to your *ſiſter. I deſire, you will be more diligent;* i. e. *I deſire,* that *you will be more diligent.*

They compliment, they ſit, they chat,
Talk o'er the wars, reform the ſtate,
A thouſand knotty points they clear,
'Till ſupper and my wife appear. Prior.

i. e. *They compliment,* and *they ſit,* and *they chat,* &c.

Laſtly; Of a conſiderable part of a ſentence; as, *Nature has given to animals, one time to act, another to reſt;* i. e. *Nature has given to animals one time to act;* Nature has given to animals *another* time *to reſt.*

Of TRANSPOSITION.

TRANSPOSITION is the placing of words out of their natural order, for the ſake of ſome ſuperior beauty. It is ſeldom of advantage to invert the ſtyle, except in poetic language, and therefore the beſt proſe writers

have the feweſt inſtances of tranſpoſition. In poetry alſo this figure is to be condemned, if it endanger perſpicuity, or add not to the beauty and harmony of the verſe. The Engliſh language admits of conſiderable liberty in the arrangement of a word or clauſe denoting ſome circumſtance, which may be variouſly placed without inconvenience, but is uſually to be preferred at the beginning of a ſentence. It would be difficult, and perhaps uſeleſs to lay down rules comprehending every allowable inſtance of tranſpoſition. The beſt inſtruction that can be given, is to attend to the practice of the moſt approved writers, and always to preſerve perſpicuity. It will be an uſeful exerciſe to the ſcholar to reſolve a tranſpoſed ſentence into its natural arrangement; as for inſtance, the beginning of Milton's Paradiſe Loſt:

Of Man's firſt diſobedience, and the fruit
Of that forbidden tree, whoſe mortal taſte
Brought death into the world, and all our woe,
With loſs of Eden, till one greater man
Reſtore us, and regain the bliſsful ſeat,
Sing heavenly muſe.

The natural order of the foregoing ſentence is, *Heavenly muſe, ſing of man's firſt diſobedience, and the fruit*, &c.

So

So ſpake th' omnipotent, and with his words
All ſeem'd well pleas'd; all ſeem'd, but were not all. Par. loſt, b. 5.

i. e. *So the omnipotent ſpake, and all ſeem'd well pleas'd with his words; all ſeem'd, but all were not.*

Of the Transformation of Words.

IT ſometimes happens from particular circumſtances, that a word loſes its common ſignification, and acquires the diſtinguiſhing property of another part of ſpeech.

Thus for inſtance; *the Poſſeſſive Caſe* of a Noun, is equivalent to an *Adjective;* as, man's *life is ſhort;* i. e. human *life is ſhort.*

When *two Nouns* are compounded together, and joined with a hyphen, the firſt of them has uſually the ſignification of an *Adjective;* as, *a* bird-*cage*, *an* ale-*houſe*, *a* man-*ſervant*, *a* maid-*ſervant;* and ſometimes when the hyphen is omitted; as, *a* gold *ring*, *a* London *merchant*, *a* China *orange*, *the* noon-tide *hour*, *the* mid-day *ſun.*

An *Adjective*, when its Subſtantive is underſtood, acquires the nature of a *Noun;* as, The wiſe *ſhall inherit glory. Who will ſhew us any* good?†

A

† *Adjectives* are ſometimes very improperly uſed inſtead

A *Verb* in the *infinitive* Mode, has generally the ſignification of a Noun; as, to err *is human;* i. e. error *is human.*

A *Participle,* when it has no reſpect to time, becomes a meer *Adjective;* as, *a* learned *man, a* ſpotted *garment, a* fiſhing *rod, a* pruning *hook.*

A *Participle* is ſometimes converted into a *Noun;* as, Hunting *is* a healthful *exerciſe.* She *is fond of* ſinging *and* dancing.

An *Adverb,* when it connects ſentences, may be conſidered as a *Conjunction;* as, *He is angry at you,* not *at me. You are very careleſs,* alſo *very idle.*

Some *Adverbs* have the uſe and conſtruction of *Pronouns;* as, *hereof, hereby, wherein, whereunto,* &c.

A *Conjunction,* when it ceaſes to connect ſentences, is changed into an *Adverb;* as, *I think* otherwiſe. *He was* then *reading Cæſar's commentaries.*

A *Prepoſition* ſometimes aſſumes the nature of the *Adverb,* ſometimes of the *Conjunction;* as, *He went* before, *I followed* after. *Think,* before *you ſpeak.* After *you have ſupped, you may walk if you pleaſe.*

EXER-

inſtead of *Adverbs;* as, *a* remarkable *wiſe man; he acted* agreeable *to his promiſe:* For, *a* remarkably *wiſe man; he acted* agreeably *to his promiſe.*

EXERCISES of FALSE CONSTRUCTION.

Examples under.

Rule I. I Often *goes* a walking. Thou *loves* play. Thou *forgets* thyſelf. We *was* ſpeaking of you. You *was* wrong. Children *is* apt to play. *Does* thou learn Grammar? Why *prates* thou? *Shakeſ.*

II. Poetry, painting and muſic *is* ſiſter arts. Wiſdom and Virtue *is* ſuperior to every other endowment. Pope, Swift, and Addiſon *was* cotemporary. My brother and ſiſter *was* in the country. Thou and he *behaves* ill.

V. You have been playing *this* two hours. Give me *that* ſciſſars.

VI. O *thou* my voice inſpire,
Who touch'd Iſaiah's hallow'd lips with fire.
Pope.

Thou great firſt cauſe leaſt underſtood,
Who all my ſenſe *confin'd*,
To know but this, that thou art good,
And that myſelf am blind;
Yet *gave* me in this dark eſtate
To ſee the good from ill, *&c.* *ditto.*

VII. *Her* and *me* are going home, *Thee* doſt not tell truth. *Him* and *her* learn to ſing. *Them* and *us* learn to dance. *Them* are very good apples.

VIII. He

VIII. He praiſed *I*. We eſteem *thou*. I greatly blame *they*. I thank *ye*. We ſaw *ye*. I knew *ye*. *Shakeſ.*

IX. It is not *me*. It was *her*. They ſaid it was *him*. To that which once was *thee*. *Prior*. Here's none but *thee* and *me*. *Shakeſ.*

XI. The man, *who* you met upon the road is my friend. There is no man, *who* I love ſo much. Theſe are the men, *who* I ſaw yeſterday. *Who* ſhould I meet the other night, but my old friend? *Spect.*

XII. Q. *Who* did this? A. *Me*. Q. *Who* bid you? A. *Him*. *Who* are diligent? A. *Us*. Q. *Who* are idle? A. *Them*.

XIII. We have been reading *Popes* works. He admired the *ſoldiers* horſe. The king of Great *Britains* army. On *eagles* wings.

And art thou then *Acaſtos* dear remains?

XVI. He was teaching *ſhe* and *I*. You are angry at me for admoniſhing *ye*.

XVII. *Him* having finiſhed his diſcourſe, the aſſembly was diſmiſſed, *us* being greatly pleaſed, *them* greatly diſpleaſed.

XVIII. With *who* do you live? *Who* do you live with? I live with *he*. Do you know, *who* you ſpeak to? Do you know to *who* you ſpeak?

XIX. I eſteem your brother, than *who* I do not know a more worthy young man.

Let

Let us honor our parents, than *who* none ought to be more dear to us.

XX. Neither riches nor honor, *or* knowledge can be compared with virtue. I am ſo full of buſineſs, *as* I cannot anſwer thee. *Shakeſ.* Neither in this world, *neither* in that to come. Can the fig-tree bear olive berries, *either* a vine figs? And the third part of the ſtars was ſmitten, ſo *as* the third part of heaven was darkened.†

XXII. I have *gave*. Thou haſt *wrote*. He would not have *durſt*. Where did you *lay* laſt night. When was this meadow *mowed*? The bells have been *rang* all night. The houſe was *ſhook* by the wind. I *begun* yeſterday. Have you *began*. It was *began*. I have *choſe*. *Milt*. You have *ſwam*. *Shakeſ*. I have *miſtook*. *Do*. Finiſh what you have *began*. *Dryd*.

Rapt into future times the bard *begun*. *Pope*.
The ſun has *roſe*, and gone to bed. *Swift*.
The tear *forgot*, as ſoon as ſhed. *Grey*.

XXIV. The Engliſh, and the French are near neighbours. *Theſe* are iſlanders; *thoſe* inhabit the continent.

Man is compounded of body and mind. *This* is common to him with the brutes; *that* is the image of God himſelf.

† Many of theſe examples are to be found in Lowth's excellent Grammar.

EXAMPLES of ENGLISH COMPOSITION,

Chiefly ſelected from the moſt celebrated Authors.

A Contented mind, and a good conſcience, will make a man happy in all conditions.

Proſperity gains friends, and adverſity tries them.

Complaiſance renders a ſuperior amiable, an equal agreeable, and an inferior acceptable.

Without a friend, the world is but a wilderneſs.

By others' faults, wiſe men correct their own.

Pitch upon that courſe of life, which is moſt pleaſant, and cuſtom will render it the moſt delightful.

Anger may glance into the breaſt of a wiſe man, but reſts only in the boſom of fools.

He that is truly polite, knows how to contradict with reſpect, and to pleaſe without adulation; and is equally remote from an inſipid complaiſance, and low familiarity.

Honor thy father with thy whole heart, and forget not the ſorrows of thy mother: How canſt thou recompenſe them the things they have done for thee?

Truth is always conſiſtent with itſelf, and needs nothing to help it out; whereas a lie is

is troubleſome, and ſets a man's invention on the rack, and one trick needs a great many more to make it good.

Many men have been capable of doing a wiſe thing, more a cunning thing, but very few a generous thing.

If gratitude is due from man to man, how much more from man to his creator? The ſupreme being does not only confer upon us thoſe bounties, which proceed more immediately from his hand, but even thoſe benefits, which are conveyed to us by others. Every bleſſing we enjoy, by what means ſoever it may be derived upon us, is the gift of him, who is the great author of good, and father of mercies.

When Socrates was told that his judges had ſentenced him to death; And hath not nature (ſaid he) paſſed the ſame ſentence upon them?

He, who ſwears, tells us his bare word is not to be credited.

True modeſty is aſhamed of every thing that is criminal; falſe modeſty of every thing, that is unfaſhionable.

Nothing can be honorable, which is not virtuous: Among the Romans, the entrance to the temple of honor always lay through the temple of virtue.

A man truly modeſt is as much ſo when alone, as in company, and as ſubject to a bluſh in his cloſet, as when the eyes of multitudes are upon him.

The envious man is in pain, upon all occaſions which ought to give him pleaſure. The reliſh of his life is inverted, and the objects which adminiſter the higheſt ſatisfaction to thoſe who are exempt from this paſſion, give the quickeſt pangs to thoſe who are ſubject to it. All the perfections of their fellow-creatures are odious: Youth, beauty, valour and wiſdom, are provocations of their diſpleaſure. But if we conſider the envious man in delight, it is like reading the ſeat of a giant in romance; the magnificence of his houſe conſiſts in the many limbs of men, whom he has ſlain.

Zealous men are ever diſplaying to you the ſtrength of their belief, while judicious men are ſhewing you the grounds of it.

Avarice is the moſt oppoſite of all characters to that of God Almighty; whoſe alone it is to give, and not receive.

Harmony of period, and melody of ſtile, have greater weight than is generally imagined in the judgment, we paſs upon writing and writers. As a proof of this, let us reflect, what texts of ſcripture, what lines in poetry, or

or what periods, we moſt remember, and quote, either in verſe or proſe, and we ſhall find them to be only muſical ones.

Whoever thinks a faultleſs piece to ſee,
Thinks what ne'er was, nor is, nor e'er ſhall be.
In ev'ry work regard the writer's end,
Since none can compaſs more than they intend.
And if the means be juſt, the conduct true,
Applauſe, in ſpite of trivial faults, is due.
Pope, Eſſ. on Crit.

A little learning is a dangerous thing;
Drink deep, or taſte not the Pierian ſpring:
There ſhallow draughts intoxicate the brain,
And drinking largely ſobers us again. Ditto.

Now ſhield with ſhield, helmet with helmet clos'd,
To armour armour, lance to lance oppos'd,
Hoſt againſt hoſt, with ſhadowy ſquadrons drew,
The ſounding darts in iron tempeſts flew,
Victors and vanquiſh'd join promiſcuous cries,
And ſhrilling ſhouts and dying groans ariſe;
With ſtreaming blood, the ſlippery fields are dy'd,
And ſlaughter'd heroes ſwell the dreadful tide.
Pope's Homer.

——————— *Now ſtorming fury roſe,*
And clamour, ſuch as heard in heav'n till now
Was never, arms on armour claſhing bray'd
Horrible diſcord, and the madding wheels

Of

Of brazen chariots rag'd; dire was the noiſe
Of conflict; over-head the diſmal hiſs
Of fiery darts in flaming vollies flew,
And flying, vaulted either hoſt with fire.
So under fiery cope together ruſh'd
Both battles main, with furious aſſault
And inextinguiſhable rage; all heaven
Reſounded, and had earth been there, all earth
Had to her centre ſhook. Par. Loſt.

EPITAPH on Mr. GAY.

Of manners gentle, of affections mild;
In wit a man; ſimplicity a child:
With native humour temp'ring virtuous rage,
Form'd to delight at once, and laſh the age:
Above temptation in a low eſtate,
And uncorrupted ev'n among the great:
A ſafe companion, and an eaſy friend,
Unblam'd through life, lamented in thy end.
Theſe are thy honours! not that here thy buſt
Is mix'd with heroes, or with kings thy duſt;
But that the worthy and the good ſhall ſay,
Striking their penſive boſoms—Here lies GAY.

ELEGY to the Memory of an unfortunate LADY, v. 47.

What can atone (oh ever injur'd ſhade!)
Thy fate unpity'd, and thy rites unpaid?

No

No friend's complaint, no kind domeſtic tear
Pleas'd thy pale ghoſt, or grac'd thy mournful bier;
By foreign hands thy dying eyes were clos'd,
By foreign hands thy decent limbs compos'd,
By foreign hands thy humble grave adorn'd,
By ſtrangers honor'd, and by ſtrangers mourn'd!
What tho' no friends in ſable weeds appear,
Grieve for an hour, perhaps, then mourn a year,
And bear about the mockery of woe
To midnight dances, and the public ſhow?
What tho' no weeping loves thy aſhes grace,
Nor poliſh'd marble emulate thy face?
What tho' no ſacred earth allow thee room,
Nor hallow'd dirge be mutter'd o'er thy tomb?
Yet ſhall thy grave with riſing flow'rs be dreſt,
And the green turf lie lightly on thy breaſt:
There ſhall the morn her earlieſt tears beſtow,
There the firſt roſes of the year ſhall blow;
While angels with their ſilver wings o'erſhade
The ground now ſacred by thy relics made.

So peaceful reſts without a ſtone a name,
What once had beauty, titles, wealth and fame.
How lov'd, how honor'd once, avails thee not,
To whom related, or by whom begot;
A heap of duſt alone remains of thee,
'Tis all thou art, and all the proud ſhall be!

Poets themſelves muſt fall like thoſe they ſung,
Deaf the prais'd ear, and mute the tuneful tongue.

Ev'n

Ev'n he whoſe ſoul now melts in mournful lays,
Shall ſhortly want the gen'rous tear he pays;
Then from his cloſing eyes thy form ſhall part,
And the laſt pang ſhall tear thee from his heart,
Life's idle buſ'neſs at one gaſp be o'er,
The muſe forgot, and thou belov'd no more!

Pope.

Preſumptuous man! the reaſon would'ſt thou find,
Why form'd ſo weak, ſo little, and ſo blind?
Firſt if thou canſt, the harder reaſon gueſs,
Why form'd no weaker, blinder, and no leſs?
Aſk of thy mother earth, why oaks are made
Taller or ſtronger than the weeds they ſhade?
Or aſk of yonder argent fields above,
Why Jove's ſatellites are leſs than Jove?

Ditto.

BRITISH
14 JY 74
MUSEUM

FINIS.

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